OUR MISSION
To protect, restore, and sustain Washington’s environment

OUR WORK
Washington Environmental Council has an over forty year history of working to achieve smart environmental protections for our state. We bring people together to advance bold solutions that make Washington a better place to live. We focus on state level environmental policy and have played a significant role in the adoption and enforcement of Washington state’s most successful environmental laws and policies – protecting our land, air, water, and quality of life.
2012 was a year of transitions – some long-planned for and some unexpected.

Statewide, Washington welcomed a new governor – Jay Inslee. Governor Inslee brings new energy, deep expertise, and personal commitment to the most pressing issue of our times: climate change. His will be an important voice as we work to make Washington a leader on reducing climate pollution and developing a clean energy economy.

This past fall brought another big transition for the environmental community. People For Puget Sound, a long-time partner, transitioned its policy, advocacy, and grassroots work to WEC. While we were surprised and saddened by their passing, we were honored that People For Puget Sound found us to be the right group to carry on their work. We have picked up the torch and are moving full-steam ahead in our work to protect and restore Puget Sound.

This year, we thanked Rod Brown for his service as Board President and welcomed back a familiar face: Jay Manning. Jay returns as WEC’s President after having served as the Board President from 2001 to 2004. He stepped down as President when Governor Gregoire asked him to serve as Director of the Department of Ecology. He then served as the Governor’s Chief of Staff. We’re excited to have him back; WEC has changed a lot over the last decade, but our values remain the same.

And after this eventful year, WEC emerged stronger than ever. We’ve built a focused, nimble organization and because of that, we were able to weather challenges and take advantage of opportunities. We’re looking forward to what 2013 brings and to working with you to make good things happen for Washington’s environment.
OUR PROGRAMS

CLIMATE & CLEAN ENERGY
Driving state action to reduce our climate pollution, build our economy, reduce our fossil fuel dependence, and take control of our energy future.

CLEAN WATER & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
Playing an important role in both protecting our lakes, rivers, and streams, and restoring Puget Sound to health.

PEOPLE FOR PUGET SOUND
Working to fulfill People For Puget Sound’s mission: to protect and restore the Sound.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES COALITION
Pushing for improved protections for Washington’s environment with a state-wide coalition.

EVERGREEN FORESTS
Improving management of Washington’s state and private forests; creating a model of sustainable forestry that protects the environment and benefits Washingtonians.

VOTER EDUCATION PROGRAM
Using strategic tools to advance WEC’s policy goals by helping us reach more people and engage environmental voters.
WEC is uniquely positioned to drive positive change for Washington’s environment. We approach our issues with important and distinct tools that help us protect, restore, and sustain our land, air, and water.

**STRATEGY**
Our strategic capacity improves policy, programming, and organizational health.

**MOBILIZING POWER**
WEC’s power comes from strong relationships with stakeholders, a wide base of grassroots activists, and advanced technology that adds to our capacity as an advocacy organization.

**INNOVATION**
We are the leaders in Washington’s environmental movement, and we’ve been able to grow and adapt because we innovate. Our issue work, policy, and technology is on the cutting edge of our movement.

**A HISTORY OF SUCCESS**
WEC has been an environmental champion for over 40 years. After decades of environmental leadership and success, Washingtonians trust us to get things done.

**PARTNERSHIP**
Partners at the local, state, and national levels are essential to our work to protect and restore our environment. We have the working relationships to move Washington forward.

**DEFENDER**
We defend important protections that keep our state a safe place to work, play, and raise a family.
WHERE WE WORK

A WIN FOR FOREST HEALTH

The Olympic Peninsula is home to important state-owned forests. To keep these forests healthy, a legal settlement by WEC and partners required the state to thin as many acres as it clearcuts to enhance forest health. The state found it hard to keep a balance between clearcutting and thinning. Our advocacy convinced the state to hire new foresters and create an action plan to meet their commitment: more thinning and less clearcutting. This is an example of WEC’s work that strikes a balance to keep our forestland healthy.

SAYING NO TO COAL AT GRAYS HARBOR

In August 2012, the fight to prevent coal export terminals in the Northwest made an important breakthrough: RailAmerica announced that they were dropping their plans for a coal export terminal in Grays Harbor. WEC’s organizing capacity and grassroots activists played a pivotal role in stopping coal at Grays Harbor. The fight to stop coal exports doesn’t end here, but WEC and our partners laid significant groundwork in opposition to coal at a local level.
VOTER ENGAGEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

This election season, WEC partnered with a dozen other environmental and social justice groups to host three candidate forums in the greater Seattle area. These forums helped build our grassroots power, educate candidates and the public on important issues, and increase voter turnout in an important election year. We held forums in the 11th, 36th, and 46th districts and saw tremendous turnout from each community.

EXTENDING OUR REACH: TELEPHONE TOWN HALLS

As part of our Voter Education Program, WEC organized two telephone town halls this fall for the Power Past Coal Coalition. Our second town hall reached out to Eastern Washington residents who hadn’t taken action on coal exports, but whom our research showed were likely to care about this issue. Nearly 7,500 people joined us on the phone! Combined with our first town hall, we reached over 12,000 people. This kind of targeted outreach is a great way to engage activists on issues that motivate them.
Washingtonians are beginning to experience the ravages of climate change in their own backyards: droughts, widespread forest fires, and marine waters becoming too acidic for growing oysters.

WEC’s Climate & Clean Energy agenda drives state action to reduce our climate pollution, build our economy, reduce our fossil fuel dependence, and take control of our energy future.

STOPPING COAL EXPORT IN THE NORTHWEST

For the past two years, alongside partners like Climate Solutions, WEC has been an integral member of the Power Past Coal campaign, a coalition of health, environmental, clean-energy, faith, and community groups working to stop coal exports off the West Coast.

Right now, five coal export terminal proposals pose an enormous threat to a clean energy future. The proposals would transport as much as 140 million tons of coal through the Northwest. Coal export would harm our communities, our waterways, and our health; it will move Washington, our nation, and our world backward.

In 2012, we helped build the groundswell of people opposed to coal export. Thousands of Washingtonians spoke out against coal export as part of the process of determining the scope of environmental review. The diverse opposition to coal export inspired us - from doctors, to Tribes, to elected officials at every level. Everyone made their voice heard. The Army Corps of Engineers received over 120,000 comments during scoping and a record breaking 8,200 people attended the scoping hearings across Washington.

Power Past Coal plays an invaluable role in this ongoing coal export campaign. WEC contributed its staff capacity, expertise, and tools to Power Past Coal’s successful efforts to mobilize grassroots activists, engage the public, build and sustain opposition, and send a message to elected officials that we are saying no to coal export and saying yes to clean energy.

WEC participates in the Power Past Coal campaign at nearly every level. We serve on the executive committee, the communications team, and the field team. We provide policy expertise, organizing tools, technology, and connections to important voices in this fight.
REGIONAL CLIMATE COLLABORATION

WEC’s role in protecting Washington’s environment isn’t always on center stage. We lay groundwork, we “set the table” for conversations, and we foster relationships. Our work with the Pacific Coast Collaborative (PCC) is a great example of that important, behind the scenes work.

PCC is a platform for coordinated West Coast action on climate and clean energy. It’s a chance for government leaders and other important stakeholders from California, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia to collaborate and unite in transitioning our region to a clean energy economy.

WEC helped organize a pivotal gathering of this group, resulting in a strengthened West Coast partnership around a wide range of issues that will help build our future in clean energy.

FIGHTING BIG OIL (AND WINNING)

As defenders of Washington’s environment, WEC stands up to polluters. In 2011, we did just that with one of the biggest polluters of them all – Big Oil. With the help of our clean air allies, WEC filed a lawsuit to enforce the requirement that Washington’s five oil refineries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions through improved energy efficiency. At the end of 2011, a judge ruled in our favor, a landmark step for reducing climate emissions. Unfortunately, in 2012, the state and Big Oil appealed that decision.

We didn’t allow the conversation to end there. WEC is in court defending our win against appeal, and meanwhile, the judge has ordered that the state proceed with regulating pollution from the oil refineries. Time and time again, WEC works to ensure that Washington’s environmental protections are enforced.

STRATEGY

Our work with West Coast partners will be important as Governor Inslee moves forward with climate action efforts and a clean energy-focused economic agenda.

DEFENDER

WEC stood up to the one of the biggest polluters of all: Big Oil – and won.
Washington state is home to some of the most beautiful bodies of water in the world. From Puget Sound to the Skykomish River to Lake Chelan, our waterways help shape our regional identity. But they – and we – face constant threats: pollution caused by existing stormwater runoff and new development.

Our work on Clean Water & Green Infrastructure plays an important role in protecting our lakes, rivers, and streams, and restoring Puget Sound to health.

Fighting Stormwater Pollution

Stormwater is the biggest polluter of Puget Sound, and we can create healthier communities by tackling polluted stormwater runoff. By installing green infrastructure projects – like rain gardens, bioswales, and permeable pavement, we can improve the beauty, safety, and health of our communities and reduce toxic runoff into Puget Sound and waterways throughout the state.

Every time it rains, that rain travels over our roads, parking lots, and driveways, gathering the sludge of the road along with it. From there, millions of pounds of toxic chemicals flow directly into rivers, streams, and Puget Sound.

To address this problem of polluted runoff, we know we need to fix mistakes of the past by retrofitting our existing infrastructure. At the same time, we need to make sure that new development doesn’t make the problem worse.

The municipal stormwater permit, enforced by the state, sets standards for new development. The permit encourages green infrastructure solutions for the protection of Washington waterways from polluted runoff. In 2012, the Department of Ecology released a new draft of the permit and it came under attack almost immediately in the state legislature.

Partnering with People For Puget Sound, The Nature Conservancy, and others, WEC worked with stakeholders and community members to push back against attempts in the state legislature to weaken and delay the municipal stormwater permits.

With the power of collaboration and grassroots activism, we successfully protected many of the permit’s most important provisions for reducing pollution. And in August, the Department of Ecology released the final municipal stormwater permit which requires the use of green infrastructure – a big step forward!

Unfortunately, a handful of cities and counties have challenged the permit in court and are pushing an agenda of inaction. WEC and our partners at Earthjustice, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance, and the Rosemere Neighborhood Association have intervened on the side of the state and will work hard to defend the stormwater permit.

The public united in support of a strong permit. Green builders, environmental groups, Tribes, shellfish growers, and concerned citizens spoke out in support of the permit and the importance of green infrastructure solutions.

Defender

With the health of Washington’s waterways at stake, WEC stepped in to protect the stormwater permit. Playing defense for good laws is part of our commitment to clean water for Washington.
In Spring 2012, we and our partners avoided a major lawsuit and reached an agreement with state agencies and the private timber industry to strengthen the 50-year permit that governs logging on over nine million acres of private and state forests in Washington.

The agreement, reached after six months of negotiations, will lead to stronger protections for salmon and clean water in Washington’s forests. It also provides greater accountability for the timber industry and our government to deliver on the promise of better forestry. We are grateful to Washington Forest Law Center and WEC board members Jay Manning and Rod Brown for providing critical pro bono support for this important work.

SETTING THE SCENE

In the late 1990s, the state adopted a package of rules called “Forests and Fish,” to improve logging and forest management on private forest land. In 2006, these rules became the basis for one of the country’s largest Habitat Conservation Plans. In exchange for conservation measures, the plan provided a legal “pass” to harm threatened salmon.

The rules were an improvement, but not as strong as needed to help recover salmon and restore clean water. We were concerned there was a built-in incentive to keep the status quo. And as we thought, significant improvements were not being made.

UNDER PRESSURE

In 2012, the legal deadline for challenging the “Forests and Fish” rules was quickly approaching. Hoping to avoid a lawsuit, we catalyzed a negotiation to hammer out an agreement that would more likely provide clean water and salmon habitat.

With the clock ticking, we were able to find enough common ground to put together a new agreement. The agreement increases certainty of funding for scientific studies, monitoring, and enforcement, and strengthens the science process that will help improve environmental protection over time. WEC and our partners are providing ongoing oversight to ensure the agreement delivers real benefits.

Now, we can look to a new future for Washington’s forests, one that addresses questions like how can we use incentives to take management of Washington’s private forests to the next level of environmental benefit: storing more carbon, providing better wildlife habitat, and helping to keep our water clean. We are excited to embark on this next chapter of forestry advocacy.

STRATEGY

WEC’s ability to navigate complex issues with diverse stakeholders is a hallmark of our work.
Late in 2012, WEC committed to taking on the advocacy, policy, and grassroots work of People For Puget Sound. Here at WEC, we were honored to carry on their mission: to protect and restore Puget Sound. We are excited to be digging even further into an issue we’ve been working on for many years. It’s a big task, but it’s one we take on with confidence in the fit with our mission and the strength of our partners.

A HISTORY OF SUCCESS

For the past 20 years, People For Puget Sound and WEC have been strong allies, working together to protect Puget Sound. We each had different roles, but together were able to help update the Shoreline Management Act, establish the Puget Sound Partnership, urge Ecology to adopt permits to curb polluted runoff, push for statewide funding for clean water projects, and much more.

OUR GOALS FOR PUGET SOUND

■ Protect and Restore Water Quality
We will continue a region-wide effort to tackle polluted stormwater runoff, protect our waters from oil spills, and address the issue of ocean acidification.

■ Protect and Restore Habitat Critical to the Recovery of Puget Sound Species
WEC will work with our partner organizations and local groups to protect our aquatic reserves and our shorelines – both especially critical in Puget Sound. We will continue our ongoing effort to prevent a massive coal export facility from being built at Cherry Point in Whatcom County which would destroy important habitat.

■ Engage Citizens to Protect and Restore the Sound
WEC will build on People For Puget Sound’s history of advocacy to ensure that the Puget Sound Partnership’s Action Agenda gets the job done for the Sound. We will use cutting edge technology from our Voter Education Program to reach a broader audience of people who are likely to take action to protect the Sound. We are also excited to be combining our intern and volunteer programs and involving even more people to help the Sound.
WEC has a history of fighting for what is best for Washington’s environment, and we are excited to now have Puget Sound as one of our key long-term programs. With the help of our partners and the support of dedicated activists, we carry on toward a healthy Puget Sound. Moving forward, we will develop a long-term action plan to fulfill People For Puget Sound’s mission to protect and restore the Sound.

**Forging Ahead**

**Q&A WITH MADDIE FOUTC**

**AQUATIC RESERVES PROJECT COORDINATOR**

**WHEN DID YOU KNOW YOU WANTED TO WORK WITH THE ENVIRONMENT?**

I first fell in love with the outdoors exploring tide pools on Lopez Island with my dad. I didn’t realize I wanted to pursue a career in the field until I grew up and began to understand that protecting our environment ensures all of us a better future. Now I get to work to protect Washington’s most special places for a living!

**WHAT IS YOUR ROLE AT WEC?**

As Project Coordinator for the Aquatic Reserves project, I coordinate the education and engagement of people who live near their local Aquatic Reserves. It’s exciting to be making an impact at a local level. Working alongside organizations and citizens is my favorite part - it’s the kind of collaboration that will help save our Sound!

**WHERE ARE THE PROJECTS?**

- Nisqually Reach, just north of Olympia, in partnership with Nisqually Reach Nature Center.
- Maury Island, on the south end of Vashon Island, in partnership with Preserve Our Islands.
- Smith and Minor Islands, west of Whidbey Island, in partnership with Whidbey Watershed Stewards.
- Fidalgo Bay, east of Anacortes, in partnership with Re-Sources.
- Cherry Point, northwest of Bellingham, in partnership with Re-Sources.

Photo by Brian Walsh
**VOTER EDUCATION PROGRAM**

*Our issue work reaches across Washington state. But protecting our environment needs more than just good policy – it needs people to back it up. WEC’s Voter Education Program (VEP) uses strategic tools to advance WEC’s policy goals by helping us reach more people and, more importantly, the right people. For nearly two decades, VEP has used strategy and technology to build diverse grassroots movements that are sustainable.*

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**ENGAGING VOTERS**

Every year, we have a chance to take a stand – on our values, priorities, and vision for our families and communities. We have a chance to cast our vote for the environment. To bolster that effort, in Fall 2012, VEP expanded its *Get Out The Vote* (GOTV) program and worked to encourage voters to cast ballots in November’s general election.

For the third year in a row, WEC teamed up with El Centro de la Raza to conduct a large nonpartisan get out the vote program. Together, we called 60,000 Latino voters to ask them to mail in their ballots. To our knowledge, this is the largest phone GOTV program to Latino voters in the state. We know through past testing that by asking voters to pledge to vote, we can dramatically increase voter participation. These annual get out the vote efforts are the first bilingual voter contact program conducted by Washington’s environmental community.

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**Using Technology to our Advantage**

Take a minute and look at the contacts in your phone - are there some with an old home phone number that doesn’t work anymore? Want to send a thank you note but don’t have an up to date address? We see those holes in our member information all the time, as do other organizations in the environmental community. To help solve this problem, we use something called *List Enhancement*.

When we have blanks in our data, we compare our contacts with the voter file. Washington state provides voting records of everyone who is registered to vote. It includes things like their names, age, and whether or not they cast a ballot in the last election. This helps us complete our contact information so the next time we’re having a phone bank to ask people to support our Environmental Priorities, we have the best contact information for the people most likely to take action.

But we know that improving the WEC list is only the first step. That’s why we share our technology with the environmental community. We help dozens of environmental groups enhance their lists so they can more effectively reach their members.

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**STRATEGY**

We are the only environmental organization in Washington who provides list enhancement and strategic outreach consulting free of charge, building power for the entire environmental community.

What if, in addition to having someone’s name and number in your phone, you could predict if they would answer your call? Even better than that, you could predict whether or not they would accept an invite to your holiday party. We make similar predictions for voters and whether or not they’re likely to care about environmental issues. We call it *modeling*.

A great example of our innovative voter modeling techniques is work we’ve done with the Power Past Coal campaign to stop coal exports through the Northwest. We worked with experts to develop a coal model that helped us predict which Washingtonians are likely to care about coal export in their community. We reach people outside of our membership lists that are likely to be interested in our movement and more likely to be activists in the long term. We are bringing advanced modeling technology and grassroots building together.

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**PARTNERSHIP**

Working with other organizations in the nonprofit community allows us to reach new audiences, build relationships, and strengthen our supporter base.

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**INNOVATION**

Modeling takes our data to the next level and helps us magnify our grassroots power across our program work. It better our outreach and allows us to find activists outside of our membership base.
ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES COALITION

Our collaboration in the environmental community builds diverse movements, garners support of stakeholders and legislators, and unites our community to get things done.

For ten years, the Environmental Priorities Coalition has pushed for improved protections for the people, land, air, and water of Washington. WEC plays a leadership role in the Priorities Coalition, working to select priority issues for state legislative session and engage with the community even after session ends.

The Priorities Coalition’s main focus has always been passing legislative priorities, but over the past year, WEC has expanded the scope of work to include candidate forums, district meetings, and voter engagement activities all year long.

2012 STATE OF THE SESSION

The 2012 state legislative session brought an alarming amount of attacks on bedrock environmental laws. The Environmental Priorities Coalition, using its grassroots power, policy expertise, and strategic leadership, fought back to protect the things most important for Washington’s future.

With support from our champion legislators, we prevented historic rollbacks to major environmental protections, including the Growth Management Act, the Shoreline Management Act, the State Environmental Policy Act, and the state energy code. Unfortunately, lawmakers missed an opportunity to protect our children against toxics in everyday products, by failing to pass the Toxic-Free Kids Act. This fight continues.

DEFENDER

Faced with threats to rollback bedrock environmental protections, WEC and our allies fought back. We worked with legislative champions and grassroots activists to protect Washington’s future.

Pollution-Free Prosperity

Over 75 bills threatened to undo the laws that protect Washington’s environment. With the help of legislative champions and strong grassroots pressure, the Priorities Coalition stopped every single one of them from being passed. People spoke up loud and clear in defense of Washington’s environmental protections and their voices made the difference. Together, we made sure Washington is a safe place to live, work, and play.

Fulfill Our Clean Energy Initiative

We also continued our defense work with clean energy in the legislature. The main attacks centered on Initiative-937, the Clean Energy Initiative, passed by voters in 2006. The environmental community worked together to fend off attacks and deliver the economic and environmental benefits of the Clean Energy Initiative to Washingtonians.

Toxic-Free Kids Act

Even with the support of more than 45 health, community, and environmental organizations, the Senate ultimately failed to pass the Toxic-Free Kids Act before the end of special session. The bill would have banned two cancer-causing flame retardants in children’s products. The Toxic-Free Kids Act is back as a priority in the 2013 session.
2012 BY THE NUMBERS

- **3** legislative priorities
- **12** summer interns
- **6,800** people took action during legislative session through the Environmental Priorities Coalition
- **450** people gathered to honor Governor Gregoire at this year’s Green Gala
- **120,000** comments submitted to weigh in on coal exports
- **60,000** Latino voters contacted through our Get Out The Vote program with El Centro de la Raza
- **300,000** calls to Washingtonians who live near the rail lines that would carry coal
SUSTAINABILITY CIRCLE

The Sustainability Circle is WEC’s monthly giving club, which provides us with reliable support, cuts costs, and reduces waste.

John and Andrea Adams
Tressia Anderson
Dee and Bill Amtz
Laura Backer
Peter Baird
Lois Banks
Martha Bean
Richard Hassett
Adam Berger
Harriet Phinney
Sara Bhakti
Barbara Bruell
Timothy Bombar
Charles and Sally Butler
Kathleen Cassou
Jerelyn and Hearst Coen
Caitlin Collins
Loren Armstrong
Beverly Crichton
H. Joachim Deeg
Francoise Deeg-Le Gal
Chris Dolejska
Carrie Dolwick
Margaret Elofson
KAREN and MARK Endresen
Ruth Erickson
Paul Fowles
Deeann Glamser
M Jeanne Gordner
Christopher Hall
Michael Hampton-Fitzgerald
Ray and Mary Hansen
Laura Hastings
Danferd Henke
Adair Dammann
Kevin Hope
JANICE and Thomas Huseby
Laura Immel
Antonia Jindrich
David Dicks
Steve and Nancy Johnson
Candace Jordan
William and Joy Justis
James Krieger
Kim Wicklund
Yvonne Kuperberg
Cliff Kushler
Eugene Lam
Roger and Jean Leed
Tui Lindsey
Greg Lindstrom
Dale and Leila Martin
Wendy McClure
Erick McWayne
Gary Meisenburg
Patrick Neville
David and Laura Nicol
Tracy Ouellette
David Parker
Rachel Plesko
Sharon and Wayne Rainer
Timothy Randolph
Roslyn Regudon
Bonnie and Doug Rohrer
Karen Ruppert
Browyn and Brian Scott
Julia and Stephen Shaver
Kevin Sheets
Julie Stormes
Richard Strickland
Jean Strieck
Amanda and Douglas Strombom
Vernon Swaim
Ellyn Swanson
Sunny Thompson
Jim and Alison Timmons
Carlo and Marco Voli
David and Judy Walseth
Craig and Eva Weaver
Kathleen Whitson
Nicholas Wiley
Beth Wieman
Don and Mimi Williams
Tracy Williams
Beverly Joan Witte
Tarrell Wright

LEGAL SUPPORTERS

Thank you to the committed attorneys who volunteered their time and expertise to protect Washington’s environment in 2012.

Kristen Boyles - Earthjustice
Janette Brimmer - Earthjustice
Brian Chestnut – Zions, Chestnut, Varnell, Berley & Slonim
Steven Gillespie - Foster Pepper
Wyatt Golding – Washington Forest Law Center
Peter Goldman - Washington Forest Law Center
Amanda Goodin - Earthjustice
Brian Gruber - Zions, Chestnut, Varnell, Berley & Slonim
Jan Hasselman - Earthjustice
Ken Lederman - Foster Pepper
Amanda Klein - Zions, Chestnut, Varnell, Berley & Slonim
In honor of Ron and Eva Sher
In memory of Arlan Danne and Derek Danne
In memory of Judge Betty Fletcher
In memory of Joan Thomas
In memory of Judge Betty Fletcher
In memory of Maurice Rattray, Jr
In memory of Terri Hurley

MATCHING GIFTS

Amgen
Microsoft
Bullitt Foundation

WORKPLACE GIVING

Thank you to everyone who contributes through workplace giving campaigns like Earth Share of Washington.

We value all contributions and do our best to list and spell all names correctly. If you find we have made an error, please bring it to our attention by emailing info@wecprotects.org or calling 206.631.2608.
**FINANCIALS**

**2012 REVENUE**

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**2012 EXPENSES**

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Net Assets Ending: **$1,861,714**  
Net Assets Beginning: **$1,573,090**

*Investment changes include WEC’s board restricted endowment

Washington Environmental Council is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code

Financial information in this report is drawn from audited statements by the accounting firm of Dave Bembridge, CPA PS
Jabe Blumenthal serves on the boards of Climate Solutions, the Bullitt Foundation, and the Progress Alliance of Washington. He has been active in environmental issues for many years, focusing most recently on climate change. A Seattle native, Jabe worked at Microsoft for 12 years and taught at Lakeside High School for nine years.

Rod Brown currently practices environmental law at the Cascadia Law Group and has spent over 20 years as a WEC volunteer. Rod served on the board from 1986 – 1997 and 2002 – present. During that time, he’s been WEC’s Board President twice. Primary author of Washington’s Superfund law and the Model Toxics Control Act, his leadership and talent help WEC further its ability to protect Washington’s environment.

Margaret Clancy has worked as a wetland scientist and environmental consultant for 20 years. A major focus of her consulting practice is natural resource policy development, and she is actively involved in shoreline management, critical area protection, and efforts to restore Puget Sound.

Diana Craig is a human resource professional with biology roots. With a degree in Fish and Wildlife, she worked for NOAA as a fish observer in Alaska. Her HR work has been in a variety of industries - most notably Amazon.com, Nastech Pharmaceutical, and Intermec Technology. She is a previous board member of People For Puget Sound and spends her free time birding, participating in citizen science projects, and traveling.

Marc Daudon works as a consultant helping public and private sector clients achieve resource conservation outcomes such as eliminating waste, increasing recycling, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, saving water, and conserving biodiversity. He was on the Washington Conservation Voters board for 10 years and served as board chair for three.

Carrie Doliwck currently works as State Policy Director for the Transportation Choices Coalition and her experience includes work with public, private, and non-profit entities. She currently serves as the Board Chair of NW Sustainable Energy for Economic Development (NWSEED) and is a co-founder of Sustainable South Seattle.

Dan Evans uses his Congressional, legal, and strategic planning background to serve public and private clients. As a senior Congressional staffer, he helped protect such cherished places as the Hanford Reach, Bowerman Basin, Columbia Gorge, and Long Island Cedar Grove. He also serves on the board of the Transportation Choices Coalition.

Aaron Fairchild first became connected to WEC as a partner at Social Venture Partners (SVP). He served on the environmental grant committee and was the lead partner with WEC for the first two years of the SVP/WEC relationship. Aaron founded and runs a company, Green Canopy Homes, whose mission is to inspire resource efficiency in residential markets.

Kathe Fowler developed her love of the outdoors while spending seven summers on the Madison River outside West Yellowstone in Montana hiking, biking, and floating the river. After serving on the King County Chapter of Washington Conservation Voters, she joined the state WCV board where she served as the chair. She serves on the Advisory Council for the Methow Conservancy and the Executive Leadership Council at Hopelink.

Darren Gray is a partner with the Donnelly Group at Merrill Lynch and provides wealth management and investment consulting services to individuals, companies, and non-profit organizations based in the Americas and Europe. He has been involved with sustainable businesses and investing for more than 10 years.
Brian Gruber’s commitment to protecting the environment arises from long-standing personal and professional interests. When he moved to the West, he began as an attorney at the Bozeman office of Earthjustice and, since 2003, has been with the Seattle law firm of Ziontz, Chestnut, Varnell, Berley & Slonim. His current position melds work on natural resource issues for Indian Tribes with legal action protecting Washington’s environment.

Jim Hanna joined Starbucks Coffee Company in November 2005, leading the company’s initiatives to minimize the environmental footprint through green building, energy conservation, international procurement, waste minimization, and collaboration with partners. Before coming home to Washington, Jim served as Director of Environmental Affairs for Xanterra Parks & Resorts at Yellowstone National Park, where he worked to protect one of the world’s greatest natural treasures.

Laura Hastings first served on the WEC Board from 2003-2005 when she was actively involved with the Mountaineers. She is a Human Resource Executive with over 20 years experience in building strong teams and creating organizational cultures that lead to success. Laura is also a member of Social Venture Partners (SVP).

Laura Henderson is a marketing executive with over 20 years of experience in integrated communications, focusing on strategic planning, brand positioning, messaging and, more recently, corporate responsibility initiatives. She has also worked in government on the federal level and led public affairs initiatives. Laura is passionate about sustainability issues and strongly believes in the ability of citizens to drive change.

Nancy Hirsh has been working to increase renewable energy and energy efficiency investments and low-income energy services for the past 24 years. As policy director at the NW Energy Coalition, she works with non-profits and businesses in legislative and regulatory forums. Nancy worked with WEC to help pass Initiative 937 - the Citizens’ Clean Energy Initiative, the Efficiency First law, and incentives for renewable energy development.

Janice Huseby moved to Washington in 1991, after 20 years of work at Lockheed, Blue Shield, and Raychem Corporations, focusing in organizational effectiveness. She has served as Board President of The Children’s Museum at Seattle Center and worked extensively with other non-profits such as Washington Women’s Foundation.

Ken Lederman’s first job after arriving in Washington in 1993 was serving as a legal intern with WEC. He has practiced environmental law with government (serving as an Assistant Attorney General on behalf of the Washington State Department of Ecology) and now with Foster Pepper PLLC. Ken has been involved with Washington Conservation Voters for the past 10 years, serving as the chair of the King County Chapter and also the WCV State Board.

Chandra Lewnau moved to Seattle in 2010 after practicing law in Austin, Texas for over 10 years. She has volunteered extensively with a number of non-profit organizations, most recently serving as Vice President of FixAustin, an animal welfare advocacy group that led the successful campaign to reform the city’s animal shelter and make Austin the largest “no kill” community in the nation. Chandra is a graduate of Harvard University and the University of Texas School of Law.

Melissa Mager, a native of Oklahoma City, spent eight years in Washington, D.C. as legislative staff to a U.S. Senator, one year with Washington state’s Speaker of the House and four years as professional staff to an Oklahoma Governor. She joined the Law Offices of Cynthia B. Whitaker in 1994 where she continues to practice family law. An active volunteer, Melissa was a member of People For Puget Sound for 20 years. She served on the board for 13 years and served as Board President from 2006 to 2008.

Jay Manning, WEC President, is a partner at Cascadia Law Group, a leading environmental law firm in the northwest. Prior to joining Cascadia, Jay was Chief of Staff to Governor Chris Gregoire, where he worked closely with the Governor, her Cabinet, legislators, and stakeholders in addressing all aspects of state government operations and all manner of public policy issues. Before that, Jay was the Director of the Washington Department of Ecology, where he focused on water rights and policy, Puget Sound restoration, and energy and climate issues.

Claudia Newman has been an advocate for the protection of Washington’s natural resources, critical areas, shoreline, and local communities for over 15 years. As an environmental and land use attorney at Bricklin & Newman, LLP, Claudia represents citizen groups and individuals in a broad variety of environmental matters. Claudia served on the board of the Cascadia Green Building Council when they authored the first comprehensive model green building code in the nation.
Amy Scott has been a planned giving officer with the University of Washington since 2003, and has worked to help non-profit organizations secure donations for over 16 years. Amy was previously on the board of Sustainable Ballard and is a member of the Washington Planned Giving Council. Additionally, she has been an active volunteer for several initiative campaigns.

Stephanie Solien has worked in politics, government, and the non-profit arena for more than 25 years in Washington, D.C. and Washington state. She served as national political director for the Clinton Presidential campaign in 1992 and as a lead strategist of President Clinton’s 1993 Pacific Northwest Forest Summit. Stephanie was chair of Washington Conservation Voters from 1998-2001. She is a member of Social Venture Partners, serving on the environmental advocacy committee, and is on the board of Town Hall Seattle.

Peter Steinbrueck is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and founding principal of Steinbrueck Urban Strategies, LLC. Peter is a former three-term Seattle city councilmember (from 1997 to 2007), and has led numerous efforts in Seattle to advance cutting edge urban policies in land use and development, transportation, housing, parks, and infrastructure. Peter is also a Core Member of the Working Group for Sustainable Cities at Harvard, and in 2010 was a Harvard Loeb Fellow.

Toby Thaler has worked with environmental groups, Tribes, local governments, and others on forestry, fisheries, water quality, land use, and development issues for over thirty years. Toby became the first staff attorney at WEC in the mid-1990s, organizing the volunteer public interest bar to represent WEC and other conservation advocates. Toby is presently a natural resource law and policy consultant.

Colin Wagoner is a Seattle native who, since 1999, has been working professionally to restore Puget Sound shorelines as Principal Engineer and CEO of Ridolfi Inc. He has worked as an environmental consultant for over 20 years on some of the largest Superfund sites in the Northwest. Before joining the board of WEC, he served on the board of People For Puget Sound.